REPORT

OF THE

BRISTOL ASYLUM,

OB

School of Industry for the Blind,

FOR

1889.

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INSTITUTED 1793—INCORPORATED 1832.

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BRISTOL

D. TAYLOR, SONS, AND HAWKINS, PRINTERS, TIMES AND MIRROR OFFICE.

1800

SITTINGS IN THE CHAPEL may be obtained on application to the Secretary.

THE MUSIC HALL OF THE ASYLUM—capable of scating 400—may be engaged for Rehearsals, Concerts, Lectures, &c., at a moderate charge. For particulars apply to the Secretary.

REPORT

OF THE

BRISTOL ASYLUM,

OR

School of Industry for the Blind,

FOR

1889.



INSTITUTED 1793—INCORPORATED 1832.



BRISTOL;

T. D. TAYLOR, SONS, AND HAWKINS, PRINTIES, TIMES, AND MIRROR OFFICE.

1890.



Strangers are admitted to see the Asylumon TUESDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, and FRIDAYS from 10 to 12 o'Clock in the Morning and 2 to 4 o'Clock in the Afternoon.

Boxes are provided for receiving any Contributions to be distributed as rewards to the Pupils; also a Book for entering any Donation or Annual Subscription which Visitors may be disposed to give to the Institution.

CONCERTS are given in the MUSIC ROOM the First MONDAY of everytMonth, in the AFTERNOON, at Three o'clock, except during the Summer and Christmas Vacations. Admission free.

FORM OF LEGACY.

I bequeath to the Institution called "THE BRISTOL ASYLUM, OR SCHOOL OF INDUSTRY FOR THE BLIND," the sum of to be paid to the Treasurer for the time being of that Institution, for the general purposes thereof; which sum I direct to be paid preferably to any other legacies out of such part of my personal estate as may lawfully be appropriated to charitable purposes.

Gifts, by will, of land, or of any charges on land, or of money or stock to be laid out in the purchase of land, for charitable wses, are void by the Statute of Mortmain, but money or stock may be given by will, if not directed to be laid out in land.

Every person contributing £10 at one time, or annually subscribing £1 ls. (so long as such annual subscription continues), is a Member of the Institution.

Those who may be disposed to support this benevolent lustitution are informed that Donations and Subscriptions will be received by the Treasurer; by Stuckey's Banking Company; by any Member of the Committee; and at the Asylum, Queen's Road, Clifton, Bristol.

All Annual Subscriptions are due the 1st January in each year.

The Public are respectfully informed that all descriptions of Basket Work, Door Mats, Hearth Rugs of various colours and sizes, and Ornamental Knitting, are constantly kept on sale, at moderate prices, at the Asyluu.

BRISTOL ASYLUM

21()

School of Endustry for the Blind.

INSTITUTED 1793-INCORPORATED 1832.

President.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE EARL OF DUCTE. Vier-Presidents.

WILLIAM II, HARFORD

Col. SAVILE.

Transmire

J. CHETWOOD AIKEN.

Committee.

JOSEPH ALMOND. E. F. BOSANQUET.

CHAS, BUTLIN, Colonel MACIVER CAMPBELL. General A. DAVIDSON.

W. E. GEORGE. J. COLTHURST GODWIN. ALFRED E. HUDD.

J. COOKE HURLE, Jun. JAMES INSKIP

Alderman W. W. JOSE. Dr. JAS, H. LOCH.

OWEN SMITH. F. S. TOPLIS.

H. S. WIHTTY.

Auditors-JOSEPH ALMOND and OWEN SMITH,

Chaplain Rev. W. J. POLLOCK, M.A. Honorova Physician . J. E. SHAW, M.D.

Honorara Surgeon - A. W. PRICHARD.

Honorary Sorgeon Dentists Messrs, HAYMAN & LITTLE.

Matron - Miss KIDD. Professor of Music - S. ROOTHAM.

Assistant Teacher - Miss D. BLINKHORN.

Towing Moster . E. COCKRAM.

Drill Instructor . Sergt, Major R, BLACKIE, R.A.

Guerrasses Miss WILLIAMS and Miss ELLAS,

Trade Master- J. KHEBY.

So excintendent of Saleronn - Miss BUTLER.

Secretary.

ROBERT BLACKMORE.

BRISTOL, May 5, 1890.

At the General Annual Meeting of the Bristol Asylum, or School of Industry for the Blind, held this day at the Asylum, Queen's Road, Cliftou,

The High Sheriff (J. H. Lockley, Esq.) in the Chair,

The following Resolutions were passed :-

- That the Report and Statement of Accounts now read be adopted, and that the same be printed and distributed under the direction of the Committee.
- 2. That the Right Hon, the Earl of Ducie be re-appointed President, William Henry Harford and Col. Savile, Vice-Presidents, J. C. Aiken, Treasurer, Joseph Almond and Owen Smith, Auditors, and that the following Gentlemen form the Committee for the ensuing year:—

Joseph Almond.
E. F. Bosanquet.
Charles Butlin.
Colonel MacIver Campbell.
General A. Davidson.
W. E. George.
J. Colthurst Godwin.
Alfred E. Hüdd.
Joseph Cooke Hurle, Jun.
James Inskip.
Alderman W. W. Jose.
Dr. Jas. H. Lock.
Owen Smith.
F. S. Toplis.
H. S. Whitty.

- 3. That the Rev. W. J. Pollock, M.A., be re-appointed Chaplain.
- 4. That the thanks of this Meeting be presented to J. E. Shaw, Esq., Honorary Physician, A. W. Prichard, Esq., Honorary Surgeon, and Messrs. Hayman and Little, Hon. Snrgeon-Dentists, for their valuable services during the past year.

J. H. LOCKLEY, Chairman.

The Chairman having quitted the Chair, it was taken by Cal. Savile, when it was resolved manimously,

That the best thanks of this Meeting be given to the High Sheriff (J. H. Lockley, Esq.) for his kindness in presiding on this occasion.



REPORT.

.

The Committee, in presenting their Report and Statement of Accounts for the past year, are happy to inform the subscribers and other friends of the Institution that there is nothing of any unusual importance to lay before them, which, in a work not unattended with anxiety, is no small matter for thankfulness.

The House Committee have devoted much time to the Asylum, by which the General Committee at their monthly meetings have been kept in touch with the various departments which are in a state of general efficiency.

Pupils were admitted to the Asylum during the year from the following Counties, which shows that its benefits are not confined or restricted by any local considerations, while preference would be naturally given to local cases if the Institution was full:—Dorset, Glamorgan, Gloucester, Hereford, Oxford, Somerset, Stafford, and Worcester.

Number in	the As	ylum,	Males.	F	^r emale	:S.	Total.
1st Januar	y, 1889		25		17		42
Admitted			6		6		12
			31		23		54
Discharged	• •	• •	6		3		9
Number in As	ylum, De	ec. 31	25 	• •	20	• •	45

While this is beyond the average number in the Asylum for several years, the limit of accommodation has not yet been reached, especially at the male side, and the Committee will be ready to entertain any applications for admission of eligible candidates.

To provide for the better education of the elder pupils a certificated male teacher has been appointed to take charge of the night school, an arrangement which enables the governesses to give more time to the adult female classes.

H.M. Inspector of Schools for this neighbourhood (C. H. B. Elliott, Esq.) kindly consented to examine the pupils, and in his Report finds much to commend, while he offers some practical suggestions for general improvement, which it is hoped will lead to better and more definite results.

The question of music has engaged the anxions consideration of your Committee, they have found that as a means of livelihood for the blind it has failed in the vast majority of cases, and that, although probably half the total number of blind could be taught some branch of music fairly well, the competition with sighted musicians is so great that only exceptionally talented and well-trained pupils have any prospect of success. When instances of this occur it is better they should be sent to an institution where teaching of a very high order can be given. For these reasons it has been decided to regulate the study of it in future more in accordance with well-ascertained results; and as a source of solace and enjoyment to continue it as hitherto a part of the curriculum of the school.

Mr. Samuel Rootham's Annual Report on the Musical Department is generally satisfactory.

The physical training of the pupils has been carefully attended to under Sergeant-Major R. Blackie, drill instructor, who contrives to make it a source of recreation as well as a healthy exercise.

Since the last Annual Meeting the Royal Commissioners who have been investigating the condition of the Blind in this country and abroad, have issued their Report, and the absence of any recommendation specially applicable to this Asylum is gratifying as evidencing their approval of its work.

We regret to record the loss by death of several old and valued subscribers, whose places, it is hoped, will be taken by others kindly disposed towards the blind. The addition of three new Life Members is gratefully acknowledged. Subscribers and intending subscribers are invited to visit the Asylum to see the Pupils in the School and at work. They will be gladly shown over the Institution on any of the visiting days mentioned in the printed Report.

The trade returns, as well as the receipts from other sources, show a falling off, while the necessary expenditure has been somewhat heavier.

Much important work has been carried out without having to overdraw the bank account, or to touch the invested capital. To prevent such a contingency, however, attention must be drawn to the necessity for increased donations and subscriptions, as every year brings unforeseen demands upon the resources.

The Committee cannot close this Report without making an earnest appeal to honseholders to help to provide employment for the blind, by dealing at the Asylum and ordering baskets, mats, &c., and by sending chairs for repairs, they will thus assist the blind in the best possible manner by enabling them to help themselves.

The thanks of the Committee are due to the Hon. Physician, the Hon. Surgeon, and Hon. Surgeon Dentists for their services during the past year; also to the several ladies and gentlemen whose names appear in our general list of acknowledgements for various gifts and services rendered to the Institution.

CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

I am glad to be able to report satisfactorily on the behaviour and conduct of the pupils of the Blind Asylum during the past year, so far as they have come under my observation.

Of moral and spiritual improvement it is always more difficult to speak than of outward deportment; but in dealing with the pupils individually, as I have had opportunity, I have grounds for thankfulness and satisfaction.

Those of them who have made a decided Christian profession, maintain, I believe, a steady consistency of walk, proving it to be genuine and thorough.

WILLIAM J. POLLOCK, Chaplain.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

My annual report amounts to nothing, as I hardly attended to any illness at the Blind Asylum during the year 1889.

There were a few of the usual slight ailments, but there was no serious case during the whole year, and I congratulate the institution on its freedom from epidemic and other diseases.

ARTHUR W. PRICHARD.

DR.	. 0. 3100	,1	,							
					£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Balance, 31st Dec., 1	888							91	15	2
Cash received as under :	_									
Subscriptions					216		0			
Donations					43	2	3	000		
					_			260	()	3
Dividends on Stock	(includin	g inter	est on 1	urs.						
Disney Robinson's A	Iemorial	Fund,	£496 5s.	6d.						
Consols)								1363		6
Legacies		***						173		0
Board of Pupils, &c.								491		
Baskets, Mats, &c.								935		
On Account of Chapel		***						2.0	12	
Hire of Rooms								83	0	0

By Cash paid as under :— House Expenses— Provisions Wages Gas			636 14 (,		
Wages				,		
Coal and Coke Repairs Blankets and Drapery Sundries Furniture		***	265 17 27 0 5 51 13 8 82 11 7 43 15 0 42 7 0	2		4 0
Trude Expenses— Materials for Trade Gas Fuel Carriage of Goods Wages to Blind Out-Workers , Instructors and Porters, &	 £346		318 7 0 6 18 1 17 19 7 23 0 7			
Sundries Chapel Expenses School Expenses Music Room Expenses			699 13 3 27 16 1	1093 1 165 243	14 4 8 2	7 2 3 3
General Expenses— Gardens			18 6 8 7 8 0 201 2 10 25 8 0 389 16 0 12 13 6 66 15 0	721 1 10 43 1	10 0 18	6 0 4 7 5

Examined and found correct.

JOSEPH ALMOND, Auditors.

CURTIS, JENKINS, & CO., Accountants.

THE BRISTOL ASYLUM OR SCHOOL OF INDUSTRY FOR THE BIJND.

J. C. Ailen, Esp., Transurer, in Acoust with the Rev. Edward Kempels Trust Fund, from 31st December, 1888, to 31st December, 1889.

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£ 8.	Cash received as under-	s. 5d. Consols,											8 887

Examined and found correct,

JOSEPH ALMOND, Auditors.
OWEN SMITH,
CURTIS, JENKINS, & CO., Accountants.

OUT-DOOR WORKMEN.

(Former Pupils.)

Date of Admission.		Present Age.	Parish.
1850 Henry Phillips		54	Bristol.
1864 John James	•••	46	Clifton.
,, John Richards	•••	47	Bristol.
1876 Charles Byles	•••	39	Charlton Marshall.
1879 J. Perry	•••	30	Bristol.
1881 Richard Morris	•••	33	Bristol.
" F. Robins	•••	40	Bristol.
* ,, William Reid	•••	35	London.
" Henry Davis	•••	42	Iron Acton.
* ,, T. Perham	•••	29	Bridgwater.
* ,, George Isaac	***	32	Maesteg.

"Not Former Pupil".

MALE PUPILS.

Date of		Pı	esent	
Admission.		1	Age.	Where from.
1883 F. Darch		***	23	Clovedon.
,, Ernest Morgan		•	20	Frome.
" Joseph Robinso	011	•••	20	London.
1884 H. Tovey		• • •	17	Bedminster.
" E. J. Bishop	•••	••	23	Kidderminster.
1885 C. Francis			13	Nenth.
" E. W. Vining			15	Shepton Mallet.
" E. W. Langdor	1	•••	14	Weston-super-Mare.
" Joseph Bodyco	mbe	•••	22	Neath.
1886 William A. Cha	ipman		14	Bradford-on-Avon.
,, Wm. Snell		•••	13	Bristol.
1887 R. Beynon		•••	12	Bedwelty.
" W. Charmbury	•••	•••	15	Bedminster.
,, J. John		•••	19	Neath.
" W. J. Jones	•••	•••	14	Neath.
" W. Mitchel	•••	•••	13	Shepton Mallet.
1888 R. G. Thomas	•••	•••	11	Hereford.
" John Groves	•••	•••	20	Southampton.
,, John Swinnerto	011	•••	12	Tondu.
,, H. Elliott	•••	•••	15	Bradford-on-Avon.
" G. Comley	•••	•••	14	Chippenham.
1889 A. Davis	•••	***	18	Oxford.
" O. G. Parcelle	•••	***	14	Bridgend,
" R. R. Roberts	***	•••	14	Kidderminster.
" H. E. Doggett	•••	***	12	Fishponds.
,, G. Redout	•••	***	13	Blandford.
" J. H. Smith	***	•••	9	Pontypridd.

AMES OF THE FEMALE PUPILS.

Date of Admission.	Р	resent	Where from.
1882 Alice Bridle		19	Bristol,
1886 S. A. Nichols		111	Cardiff.
Florence Jeanes		26	Newport.
, Alice Hathway		15	Bedminster.
Chra Kear		15	West Dean.
		12	Penarth.
1887 A. Gibbs]]	Bristol.
,, A. Nelson		16	Bristol.
,, R. Helland		16	Southwick,
,, S. Haberaft		15	Sidmouth.
,, A. Lee'		18	Cardiff.
,, E. Tomalin		-2()	Bath.
1888 Kate E. Foster		18	Cambridge,
,, Alice M. Millett		11	Barton Hill.
1889 C. Jones		17	Hereford.
, M. J. Matthews		10	Calue,
,, M. Mallett		13	Stroud.
,, E. Dowling		21	Wells.
,, S. Knight		19	Birmingham.
,, H, King		18	Castle Eaton,

LEFT DURING THE PAST YEAR,

		*		Admitted	1832
				**	2.2
				2.7	1883
rth				.,	1882
				2.1	1839
				٠,	1.9
				2.7	1884
:				22	1887
				9.7	**
	rh.	erik	rth		where the second

ADMISSION OF PUPILS.

The manner of applying for Admission, and the engagements to be entered into by the Friends of the Pupils.

Any person desirous of applying for the Admission of a Pupil may have printed Papers of Questions and Engagements at the Asylum in the following form, to which answers in writing are required, attested as therein specified; and the Paper, when properly filled up, must be sent (post-paid) to the Secretary at the Asylum, Queen's Road, Bristol, in order to its being laid before the Committee. It is required that the parish or friends of the Pupils shall contribute a weekly allowance towards his or her maintenance; and if the parish or friends be at a distance from Bristol, then some respectable housekeeper in Bristol must become responsible for the regular payment of the sum stipulated.

QUESTIONS.

Т

What is the name, age, parish, present residence, occupation, and maintenance of the applicant?

TT

Is the applicant married, and has any and what family?

111.

Has the applicant received parochial or other relief, or the family on the applicant's bebalf, and to what amount?

[Y.

Where do the parents or immediate friends of applicant reside, and what is the number of their children, their character, and circumstances?

V.

Does the applicant bear a good character for morality, decency, and sobriety?

VI.

How long has the applicant been a resident in the parish

VII.

Has the applicant ever wandered about as a beggar, or played upon a musical instrument in the streets or alchouse?

VIII.

In what manner has the applicant been usually employed; has ever attempted to do any kind of work, or had any moral or religious instruction?

IX.

Is willing to conform to and obey the rules of the Institution?

X.

Will the parish to which the applicant belongs, or friends, engage to pay half-yearly in advance, the sum of Five Pounds Five Shillings, in Bristol, towards—support for seven years, or until such time as the Committee shall consider

sufficiently instructed in some trade, and further engage to receive back (if required), paying the expenses of removal of the said applicant whenever shall be discharged or dismissed from the Asylum, and also in ease of death to defray the expenses of the funeral?

XI.

Is it probable that the parents or friends of the applicant, when shall have left the Asylum, can provide the necessary materials for future employment?

The Answers to the preceding Questions must be certified by the Minister, Churchwardens or Overseers, where the applicant resides.

Sumature

Minister of

Parish,

Churchwardens or Overscers.

QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED BY A PHYSICIAN OR SURGEON.

XII.

Is the applicant totally blind, partially blind, or able to distinguish light from darkness?

XIII.

What is the nature and supposed cause of blindness

XIV.

Is the applicant possessed of sufficient intellect and bodily strength to receive instruction?

XV.

Has the applicant had the measles, small pox, searlet fever or been vaccinated?

XVI.

Is the applicant free from epileptic or other fits, and from all disorders that may be prejudicial to those already in the Asylum?

Signature, Qualification, Residence,

COPY OF FORM OF ENGAGEMENT,

To be properly filled up and signed after Election, but before Admission of the Applicant.

We, the undersigned,

and

do hereby jointly and severally engage to pay half-yearly in advance, the sum of Five Pounds Five Shillings to the "President, Vice-Presidents, Treasurer and Members of The Bristol Asylum or School of Industry for the Blind," from the day of the admission into the said Asylum of the abovenanced seven years, or until such further time as the Committee of the said Asylum shall consider sufficiently instructed in some art, trade or profession, and to supply with

proper clothing; and also to take back whenever shall be discharged from the same, either on account of having been sufficiently instructed, or on account of misconduct, or any cause whatever; and in all cases to pay the expense of removal, and in case of death to defray the expenses of the funeral.

Dated this day of 18 Signed,

"Orlered that the friends or parents of candidates for admission be informed that in all cases it will be necessary that the candidates should attend at the Asylum before 12 o'clock in the morning, for the purpose of being examined by the Physician or Surgeon.

"Every Pupil admitted shall be considered probationary for a period of three months, in order to ascertain the capability of improvement, as well as the moral disposition, of the Pupil."

RULES TO BE OBSERVED BY APPLICANTS FOR ADMISSION.

- 1.—That they are required to come decently clothed, and with change of clothes.
- 2.—That if any applicant, after admission, is found to be deficient in intellect, afflicted with fits, or with any other disorder prejudicial to the Pupils of the Asylum, such person will be immediately returned to his parish or friends.
- 3.—Persons applying for admission are desired to observe that the object of the Institution is not to provide for the permanent support of those taken under its protection, but to teach them the means of gaining a livelihood for themselves.
- 4.—Candidates for admission must in all eases be recommended by a Life Memher or Annual Subscriber of twelve months' standing.
- 5.—That previous to the admission of any candidate the friends or parishes shall pay the first half-year's hoard money in adrance, and engage some respectable inhabitant in Bristol to become responsible to the Committee for such half-yearly payment, always in advance, and on failure thereof such blind persons will be sent home to their friends or parishes.
- 6.—Should a Pupil be dismissed for misconduct or leave the Institution from caprice or otherwise, without the approval of the Committee, before the expiration of the six months, no portion of the money so advanced shall be returned.
- 7.—That each Person recommended by a Life Member or Subscriber of twelve months' standing, living in the parish, or one adjoining that of the person recommended (provided the other requisites are satisfactory) be received in preference to any other candidate.
- S.—No Male applicant, who is under Nine or above Twenty-one years of age, and no Female under Nine or above Twenty-live, can be placed on the list of candidates.
- 9.—The Papils are usually allowed One Month's holiday in the Summer, and Two Weeks' holiday at Christmas, hat such holidays, together with the times of their commencement and termination, are entirely at the option of the Committee.
- N.B.—None can be received into the Asylum as Pupils until they can dress and nudress themselves without assis ance.

Guardians of the Poor and Education of the Blind.

The Parents of the greater number of the Blind are unable to hear the expense of educating their children in Institutions. It has, therefore, heen deemed advisable here to insert some of the laws that now exist in favour of the Blind, to show how far they can he assisted in their education by the Guardians of the Poor.

LEGISLATION IN THE INTEREST OF THE BLIND AND OF DEAF MUTES.

Guardians may Maintain and Educate in Certified Schools.

25 and 26 Vic. (1862), eap. 43, see. 1. The Guardians of any Parish or Union may send any poor child to any school certified as hereinafter mentioned, and supported wholly or partially by voluntary subscriptions, the managers of which shall be willing to receive such child, and may pay out of the funds in their possession the expenses incurred in the maintenance, clothing, and education of such child therein, during the time such child shall remain at such school (not exceeding the total sum which would have heen charged for the maintenance of such child if relieved in the Workhunse during the same period), and in the conveyance of such child to and from the same, and in the case of death, the expenses of his or her funeral.

See, 9. No child shall be sent under this Act to any school which is conducted on the principles of a religious denomination to which such child does not helong.

Sec. 10. . . . The word "School" shall extend to any Institution established for the instruction of blind, deat, dumh, lame, deformed, or idiotic persons, but shall not apply to any certified Reformatory School.

Guardians may send Deaf Mutes or Blind to Uncertified Schools.

31 and 32 Vic. (1868), cap. 122, sec. 42. The Guardians of any Union or Parish may, with the approval of the Poor Law Board, send any poor deaf and dumb or blind child to any school fitted for the reception of such child, though such school shall not have been certified under the provisions of the Act of the 25th and 26th years of Victoria, chapter 43.

Guardians may subscribe towards support of Institutions,
Associations, &c.

42 and 43 Vic. (1879), cap. 54, sec. 10. Whereas by Section 4 of the Poor Law Amendment Act, 1851, Guardians are anthorised, with such consent as is therein mentioned, to subscribe towards the support and maintenance of any public Hospital or Infirmary as therein mentioned; and it is expedient to extend the said section. Be it therefore enacted as follows:—

The provisions of the said section shall extend to authorise the Gnardians, with such consent as is therein mentioned, to subscribe towards any Asylum or lustitutiou for blind persons, or for deaf and dumb persons, or for persons suffering from any permanent or natural infirmity, or towards any Association or Society for aiding such persons, or for providing nurses, or for aiding boys and girls in service, or towards any other Asylum or Institution which appears to the Guardians, with such consent as aforesaid, to be calculated to render useful aid in the administration of the relief of the poor.

Provided always that nothing herein contained shall anthorise any subscription to any Asylum or Institution nulces the Local Government Board be satisfied that the paupers under the Guardians have, or could have, assistance therein in case of necessity.

LEGACIES 1889.

					£	s.	d.	
Mrs. Smyth	e	 	•••		()11[U	0	
D. H. Ward					-	19		
W. Jordan	(moiet,v)					19 19		
27	9.7	 •••			20	119	-	
				£	173	17	0	

DONATIONS.

				£	3.	d.
W. F. Phillips				1		0
Mrs. Lott				3		UE.
Mrs. Goldney	• • •					6
Grace Bros				1		()
Miss Platt				2	-2	()
Miss Rebecca Edgar				10	{}	()
Miss Margaret Edgar				10	()	()
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LIFE MEMBERS,

Hoving contributed at one time Ten Pounds and upwards.

		£	я,	d.
1820	Mrs. Elizabeth Grafton	20	-0	0.0
	Walter Cave, London, per Daniel Cave	10	()	0
1835	Rev. James Babb, A.M	10	10	0.
1838	John Goodden, Over Compton House,			
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